STAFF COMMENTS FOR PLANNING COMMISSION

MEETING DATE: January 3, 2007

CONCEPT PLAN: CSP-06-004

TITLE: Camson Property

REQUEST: CONCEPT PLAN APPROVAL

For a three-story office building

ADDRESS: 13 Park Avenue

ZONE: CBD (Central Business District)

APPLICANT/REPRESENTATIVE/ATTORNEY/DEVELOPER: (as applicable)

Applicant/Developer: Camson Const

Camson Construction - Brian Cameron

Engineer:

Macris, Hendricks, & Glascock - Paul Newman

Architect: Peter Cheung

STAFF PERSON: Jacqueline Marsh, Planner

Enclosures:

Staff Comments

Exhibit 1: Site location map

Exhibit 2: Application

Exhibit 3: HPAC Meeting Minutes, May 4, 2006 Exhibit 4: HDC Meeting Minutes, May 15, 2006

Exhibit 5: Letter from Paul Newman, received December 20, 2006

Exhibit 6: Preliminary elevations Exhibit 7: Concept site plan

Exhibit 8: Olde Towner Master Plan, Sector 4

Exhibit 9: Parking green space exhibit

Exhibit 10: Preliminary forest conservation plan

Exhibit 11: Preliminary storm water management concept plan

STAFF COMMENTS

This is a Concept Site Plan requesting the construction of a three-story office building with additional parking at 13 Park Avenue. The subject property is located south of Brookes Avenue and north of East Diamond Avenue in the Olde Towne District (Exhibit #1) and is zoned CBD (Central Business District).

The existing structure was evaluated by the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee (HPAC) and the Historic District Commission (HDC) for historical significance that would deem the building worth preserving in accordance with the Historic Preservation Ordinance of the City Code (24-226). Both the HPAC (Exhibit #3) and the HDC found there to be no evidence to support the historical designation of the building. The HDC granted approval of the demolition of the house with a condition that the HPAC conduct a courtesy review to make recommendations to the Planning Commission (Exhibit #4). At their December 7, 2006, meeting the HPAC held a preliminary review on the architecture of the building. A final recommendation from HPAC will be made at the time of the final site plan.

The applicant is proposing a three-story 9,000 square feet building and expanding the parking lot in the rear of the property. In accordance with the Olde Towne Master Plan, the applicant will be providing a five foot dedication on the north side of the property for a public alley and also an ingress/egress easement through the property that can provide a future connection to the existing parking lot on the Jacobs Property (Exhibit #8).

A parking space waiver will need to be granted at the time of final site plan. Currently, the applicant will be providing 28 spaces (26 on the property and two (2) on-street) while the Zoning Ordinance requires 30 spaces (Exhibit #5). Staff would support the parking space waiver because the applicant is preserving a specimen tree in the northeast corner of the lot and providing the aforementioned ingress/egress easements. A condition will be added to reflect the parking waiver at the time of final site plan.

Conclusion. Staff recommends to GRANT CSP-06-004, a three-story office building at 13 Park Avenue, CONCEPT PLAN APPROVAL.



City of Gaithersburg 31 South Summit Avenue Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877 Telephone: 301-258-6330 Fax: 301-258-6336 plancode@gaithersburgmd.gov · www.gaithersburgmd.gov

SITE PLAN APPLICATION

In accordance with Article III, Division 19, Section 24-160 D.9 and Article V of the City Code

CONCEPT

Application #	CSP-06-004
Date Filed	1119106
Total Fee	\$740pd

SUBJECT PROPERTY				
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ning CBP Historic area designatio	n 🔾 Yes	U N		
ning CBP Historic area designatio				
Identification Number (must be filled in) 00843[25				
APPLICANT				
ne BRIAN CAMERON				
eet Address 13 PARK AVENUE			Suite No.	
GAITHERSBURG	Stat	e MP	Zip Code	20877
ephones: Work 301-670-0293	Home			
CITY PROJECT NUMBER				
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6.	PRIMARY USE Mixed Use	9	Non-Residential	ū	Residential
7.	PROPOSED UNIT TYPE Mixed Use Office/Professional Restaurant	000	Retail/Commercial Residential Multi-Family Residential Single Family	۵	Other
8.	WORK DESCRIPTION CONSTRUCTION OF AND PARKING			CE	BUILDING

9. PROJECT DETAIL INFORMATION. Please supply the following information.

	DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION		REQUIRED	PROVIDED
1.	1. Site (square feet)			18,810
2.			,	0.4318
3.				i
4.	Height of Tallest Building		4 STORIES	3 STORIES
5.	Green Area (square feet)		NIA	12,836
6.	Number of Dwelling Units/Acre			-
7.	Lot Coverage (percent)			17.93%
8.	Green Area (percent)			32 %
9.	Residential			<u> </u>
	a. Single Family Detached	# Units	<u> </u>	~
	b. Single Family Attached	# Units	-	-
	c. Multi-Family Condo	# Units	•••	
	d. Multi-Family Apartment	# Units	-	-
	e. Other		-	-
10.	Retail/Commercial	Sq. Ft.	_	,
11.	Restaurant Class: 🗆 A 🗆 B 🔲 C	Sq. Ft.	None	-
12.	Office/Professional	Sq. Ft.		3000 x 3
13.	Warehouse/Storage	Sg. Ft.	_	-
14.			30	31
15.				
16.	Other			
17.	Totals			

10. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- a. Set of plans per the respective checklist. Plans must be folded to $8^{1}/2 \times 11.^{"}$ b. Completion of the table above.
- c. Completed checklist.
- d. Fee as applicable.

I have read and complied with the submission requirements and afficorrect.	rm that all statements contained herein are true and
Applicants Name (please print) BRIAN CAMERON	Telephone 301-670-0293
$\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}$	
Applicant's Signature The Lawrence Applicant's Signature The Lawrence	Date 11-9-06

There was no other testimony presented in favor of an opposition to the application.

Motion was made to relember Drzyzgula, seconded by Member Coratola to the record on HAWP 99 be kept open to allow the contact purchaser to research his options and that the original 45 day deadline for action on the application be extended until the June, 19, 2006, Historic District Commission meeting.

VOTE: 5-0

III. RECOMMENDATION TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Applicant: Brian Cameron

13 Park Avenue

Demolition of Main Structure

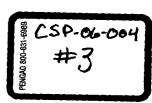
Member Coratola recused himself from the application due to the applicant currently working with him on a project.

Ms. Patula said that the applicant is requesting to demolish the structure and that members of HPAC and staff toured the site on May 2, 2006. She stated the goal of the HPAC will be to make a recommendation to the Historic District Commission for historical significance.

Mrs. Judith Christensen, historian and Senior Preservation Planner with the City of Rockville, provided background information on the property stating the home was constructed in 1939 and built by William McBain, a former Gaithersburg mayor. It was then sold to Joseph and Sally Boland who resided there until the mid-1960s. It remained in the Boland family until 2001. It is part of the streetscape on Park Avenue and a contributing street in the Olde Towne Business District.

Mr. Brian Cameron, applicant, has proposed to remove the structure and then apply to design and construct a new building to be more conducive to his type of business. He would not demolish the building until he has approval of a new design of the replacement building which would be between 9,000 to 12,000 square feet of space. In response to whether he had considered an addition, Mr. Cameron said that the structure has some structural problems, leaking in the basement, and it would not be financially advantageous to repair. He added that it does not meet any of the requirements of a historically significant structure and the criteria for historic designation as it is not an outstanding example of any particular style of home.

Member Drzyzgula did not find the building significant or distinguishable from others like it in the City. Member Bernstein said that the only significance is that it was one of the last homes constructed as part of the development on the street. Chairperson Arkin said that the building is attractive but not extraordinary, and it appears to have been altered over the years. Therefore, he would not be in support of historic designation.



Motion was made by Member Drzyzgula, seconded by Member Moyer, that HPAC finds that the property at 13 Park Avenue does not meet the criteria for historic designation.

VOTE: 5-0

(Member Moyer excused herself from the meeting at 9:21 p.m.)

THE HISTORIC PRSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE TOOK A SHORT RECESS AT 9:21 P.M. IT RECONVENED AT 9:34 P.M.

PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION

Applicant:

Brendan O'Neill
11 Russell Avenue

Office-Towns Development, Site Modifications

Ms. Marsh said that this is a preliminary review and that the applicant has met with staff and reviewed all the planning/engineering components of the plans. The applicant has requested HPAC's review before submitting for both an amendment to final plan and historic area work permit.

Mr. Brendan O'Neill, applicant, is proposing to construct a new two-story four unit office building in the rear yard of the historic Brewster-Lipscomb House. The project will have a compatible elevation to the Brewster-Lipscomb House and include site development work, required parking and landscaping. He noted that the renovation/restoration of the main structure has received numerous awards.

Mr. Jeffrey Broadhurst, architect, said the proposal is to build a four-unit townhouse detached ten feet from the rear facade of the house. There will be the required number of parking spaces plus an additional three spaces. The addition will be highly respectful of the historic house onsite and be compatible to the existing home. The public view will be minimal from Russell Avenue looking in and the facade is designed to repeat the scale of the Brewster-Lipscomb house. The facade closest to the property line on the south side has a three-foot setback for easy accessibility and a six-foot fence, separating the properties, will hide the lower portion of the building. A bay window was added giving the facade a break and adding a shadow line. The materials will be in keeping with the original house including Hardi-plank and clad windows with historic proportions and details.

Chairperson Arkin was concerned with the lack of detailing on the west gable as one walking down Russell Avenue could see it through the neighboring porch. It was suggested that additional windows be added to the south elevation to break up the facude. Mr. O'Neill said there might be too many windows on the north elevation and more spontaneity of window placement would provide a more accurate copy of the original house. Member Drzyzgula



a CHARACTER COUNTS! City

CITY OF GAITHERSBURG MINUTES OF THE MAY 15, 2006 HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION MEETING

A meeting of the Historic District Commission was called to order at 9:01 p.m., Chair Katz presiding. Commissioners present: Alster, Edens, Marraffa, Schlichting and Sesma. Staff present: City Manager Humpton, Planners Patula and Marsh, City Attorney Borten and Administrative Assistant Stokes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Commissioner Marraffa, seconded by Commissioner Sesma, that the minutes of a Historic District Commission meeting held May 1, 2006, be approved.

Vote: 6-0

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL

HAWP-98 (Retroactive) Applicant: Elizabeth Dolan, 106 Meem Avenue, Tree Removal

Miction was made by Historic District Commissioner Edens, seconded by Commissioner Alster, that the Historic District Commission, GRANT APPROVAL OF HAWP-98 (Retroactive) AND ISSUE THE CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL, FINDING, BASED ON THE RECORD BEFORE HISTORIC PRESERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HPAC) AND FOR THE REASONS ARTICULATED BY HPAC, THAT THE APPLICATION MEETS THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR STANDARDS HUMBER ONE.

Vote: 6-0

TAX CREDITS

- TCE-54, Arthur and Ann Ferguson, 19 Walke, Avenue
- TCE-55, Robert and Cathy Drzyzgula, 16 Walker Avenue

Planner Patula stated that at the May 4, 2006 meeting of the Historia Preservation Advisory Committee (HPAC), the above two tax credit applications were reviewed and found to meet the criteria for the Montgomery County Ten Percent Property Tax Credit. She further stated that the HPAC also recommended that the format for the proposal/bill for TCE-54, be itemized.

Motion was made by Historic District Commissioner Alster, seconded by Commissioner Marraffa, that TAX CREDIT APPLICATION TCE-54, be approved.

Vote: 6-0

ESP-06-004 #4 wotion was made by Historic District Commissioner Alster, seconded by Commissioner Marraffa, that TAX CREDIT APPLICATION TCE-55, be approved.

V-4-- 6.0

POLICY DISCUSSION

Applicant: Brian Cameron, Representing 13 Park Avenue, LLC, Demolition Request for 13 Park Avenue (Boland House)

Planner Patula stated that the applicant filed a request for demolition in March 22, 2006, and currently the building is occupied by Camson Construction, Inc. She further stated that the application was forwarded to the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee (HPAC) in accordance with Section 24-231.1 of the City Code. Following a visit of the site by HPAC members, staff and representatives from Camson Construction, it was determined that the building is in excellent condition, but lacks up-to-date ADA requirements. Mrs. Patula stated that HPAC received the Maryland Historic Trust Inventory information, evaluated the site using the criteria for historic designation in Section 24-226 of the City Code, and unanimously found that the site does not meet any of the criteria for designation as a local historic site. She stated that the Historic District Commission (HDC) has the option of approving the demolition permit or holding a public hearing to receive additional information. If the HDC approves the demolition, HPAC has requested a courtesy review of proposed new construction to ensure compatibility of the surrounding structures. In response to a question, Mr. Cameron responded that if the demolition is approved, it would be replaced with a structure that is suitable with the current office use. Commissioner Alster expressed concern with the compatibility of the new structure, existing streetscape and adjacent structures. City Attorney Borten stated that HPAC will address the concerns during courtesy review, if the demolition is approved.

Motion was made by Historic District Commissioner Edens, seconded by Commissioner Marraffa, that the DEMOLITION REQUEST OF THE BOLAND HOUSE, 13 PARK AVENUE, be approved with the condition that HPAC conducts a courtesy review to make recommendations to the Planning Commission.

Vote: 6-0

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Historic District Commission, the meeting was duly adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted_

Doris R. Stokes

Administrative Assistant

Macris, Hendricks and Glascock, P.A.

Engineers - Planners - Surveyors - Landscape Architects

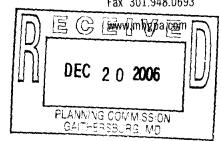
9220 Wightman Road, Suite 120 Montgomery Village, Maryland 20886-1279

Phone 301.670.0840 Fax 301.948.0693



December 20, 2006

Ms. Jackie Marsh City of Gaithersburg Planning & Code Enforcement 31 South Summit Avenue Gaithersburg, MD 20878



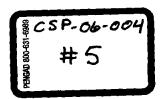
Re: Camson Property, Lot 6 Block 3

Gaithersburg CSP-06-004 MHG Project No. 2005.145.12

Dear Jackie:

We are hereby resubmitting the application for Concept Plan approval on behalf of Brian Cameron. The project was originally submitted on November 9, 2006. We subsequently received City comments and participated in a follow up meeting with City staff on December 7, 2006. Based on our discussions, we have addressed the City's concerns as follows:

- 1. We have eliminated the retaining wall formerly shown at the east end of the parking lot in order to provide a future connection to the existing parking lot on the Jacobs Property.
- 2. We have shown an additional dedication of 178 square feet at the northeastern corner of the property to facilitate the future improvement of the public alley and its connection to the aforementioned parking lot.
- 3. We show the sidewalk along the Park Avenue frontage to be improved to five feet in width.
- 4. We indicate that the existing apron and paving at the southwest corner of the property is to be removed.
- Parking lot islands are a minimum of nine feet in width in order to contribute to the parking lot green space. An exhibit showing the parking lot green space calculations is included herein.
- 6. The stormwater management concept has been revised to show a storage based stormfilter device.
- 7. The grading and storm drain has been revised to allow a greater amount of surface runoff to enter the stormwater management facility.



Ms. Jackie Marsh City of Gaithersburg

Re: Camson Property, Lot 6, Block 3

December 20, 2006

Page 2 of 2

- 8. The forest conservation plan has been revised to address City comments.
- 9. Afforestation is being provided through the planting of 2.5" dbh trees.

Other issues that have been noted:

- 1. Building elevations have been revised as per comments of the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee.
- 2. In order to provide adequate parking lot green space, we were forced to eliminate three parking spaces. This puts us two spaces short of the 30 parking space requirement for this use and building square footage. The owner feels that the square footage proposed is the minimum necessary to make this project economically feasible. As such, we would like to request a waiver of Section 24-219 (b) of the City Zoning Ordinance as per Section 24-222A of said Ordinance.

I believe that this covers the outstanding issues regarding this project. If you have any questions or need any additional information, don't hesitate to email or give me a call.

Sincerely,

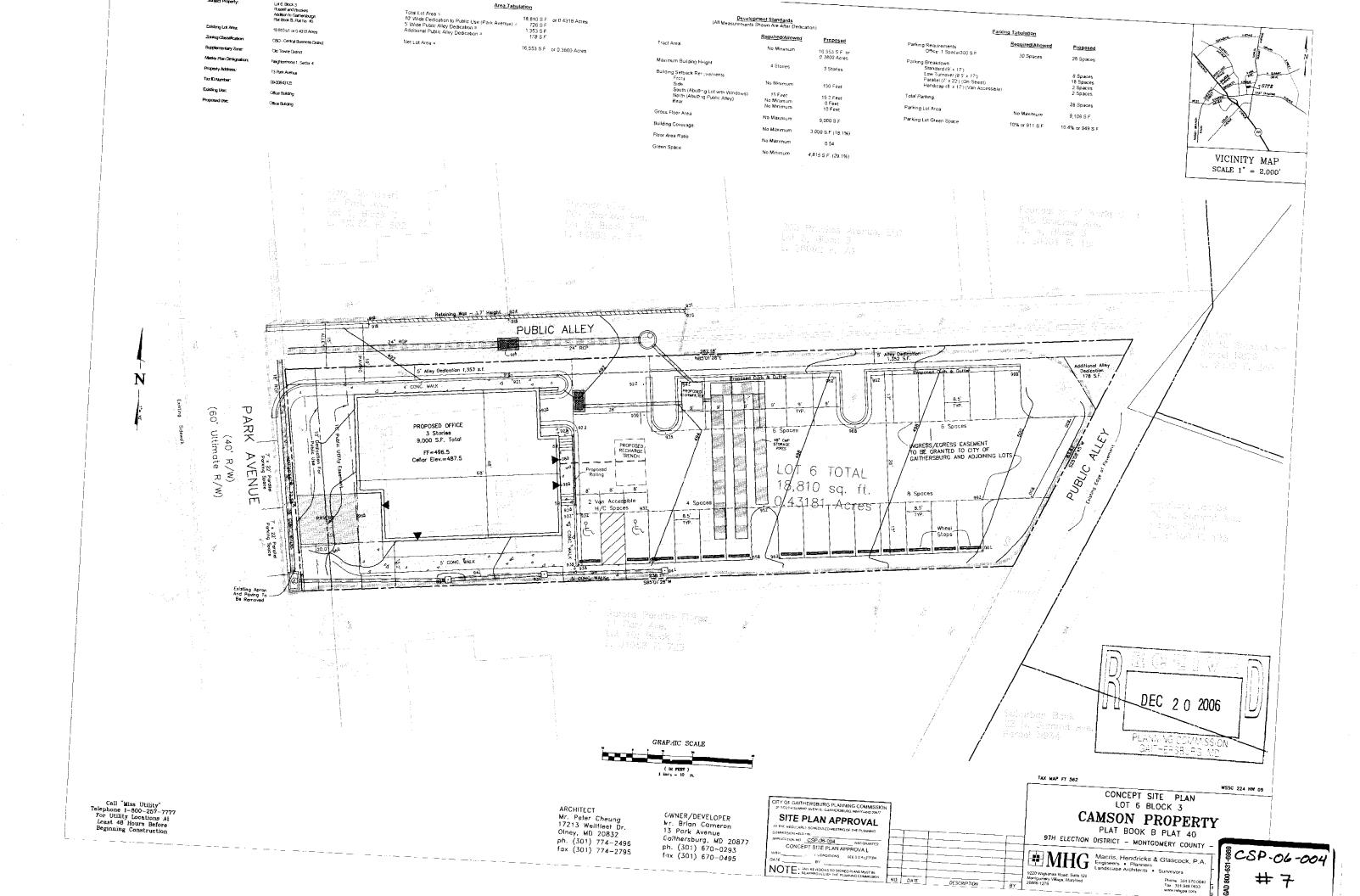
Paul J. Newman

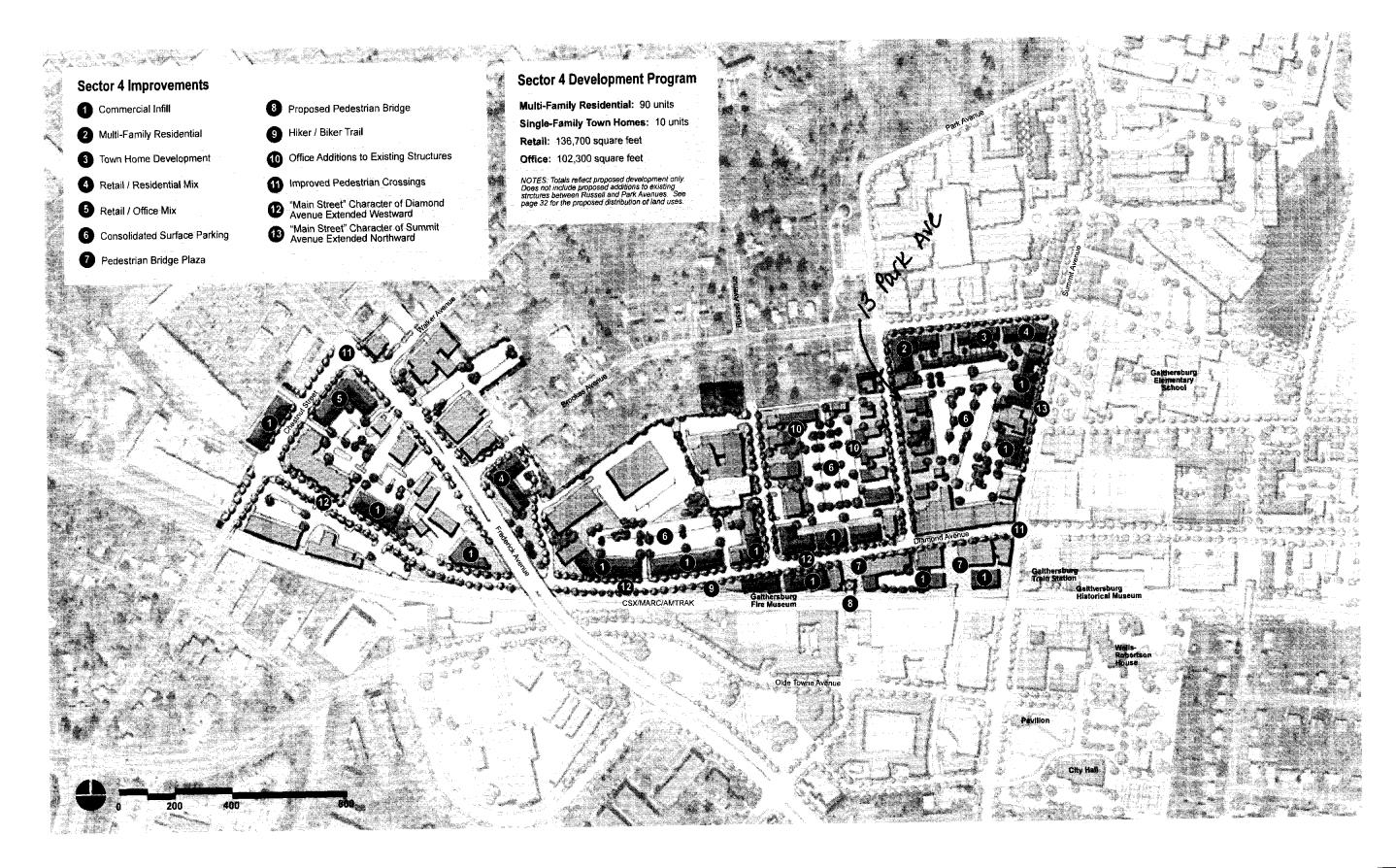
Principal



CONCEPT FRONT ELEVATION
13 PARK AVE. GAITHERS BUKG. MD.

\$CSP-06-004 #6





SECTOR 4

Sector 4 is characterized by qualities consistent with a traditional downtown - a variety of vibrant retail and restaurants along a "Main Street", adjacency to the Brookes Russell Walker Historic District. and convenient, though less direct access and visibility from Frederick Avenue via Chestnut Street. Many infill opportunities are present in Sector 4 that would strengthen the "Main Street" qualities of Diamond and Summit Avenues, allow a densification of adjacent office uses, and introduce new housing opportunities.

Commercial and Residential Infill Opportunities

The greatest opportunities present in Sector 4 are the many commercial infill sites present along Diamond and Summit Avenues. Commercial development constructed to the street edge would fill in the "missing teeth" along these streets, extend their Main Street character north and west, and improve the general pedestrianfriendliness of Olde Towne. Additional restaurants that incorporate sidewalk cafes and retailers that display wares on the sidewalk would increase Olde Towne's street activity and overall attractiveness to the pedestrian. Infill structures are envisioned up to three stories in height, with ground floor retail uses and residential or office uses above. Market conditions would determine specific uses as sites come on line for redevelopment.

The historic charm of Olde Towne is one of its leading assets. Infill development should in final design reflect this colloquial and historic vernacular. Many of the historic homes along Russell and Park Avenues have been converted to office uses to establish an appropriate buffer between the commercial areas of Olde Towne and the adjacent historic district. Recent developer interest in this area indicates the desire to increase the density. Additions to these structures that respect the historic integrity of the original building and the historic character of this area should be permitted. The additions shown on the illustrative plan at left are provided to illustrate this concept only and do not indicate actual proposals.

The residential structures at 6 and 18 Diamond Avenue should be preserved and adaptively reused for non-residential uses. These structures will provide handsome "book ends" to the proposed development between them.

Residential infill opportunities exist along Brookes Avenue between Park and Summit Avenues. These narrow parcels are wellsuited for small multi-family buildings, town homes, or two-over-two condominiums.

Several retail infill opportunities exist between Diamond Avenue and the railroad tracks. Small retail structures are proposed to flank the proposed plaza spaces at the foot of the existing and proposed pedestrian bridges that cross the railroad tracks. The City should encourage infill development at these sites to replace the unsightly surface parking lots and mask the unsightly rear of existing structures adjacent to

the tracks. Retail venues could support cafes, coffee shops, or commuter serving convenience retail uses like small groceries, flower shops, and dry cleaners to animate the plaza spaces and create a more welcoming arrival as pedestrians cross the bridge. The existing surface parking that these structures displace would be accommodated in consolidated surface lots or parking structures proposed in this Sector and throughout Olde Towne.

Consolidated Surface Parking

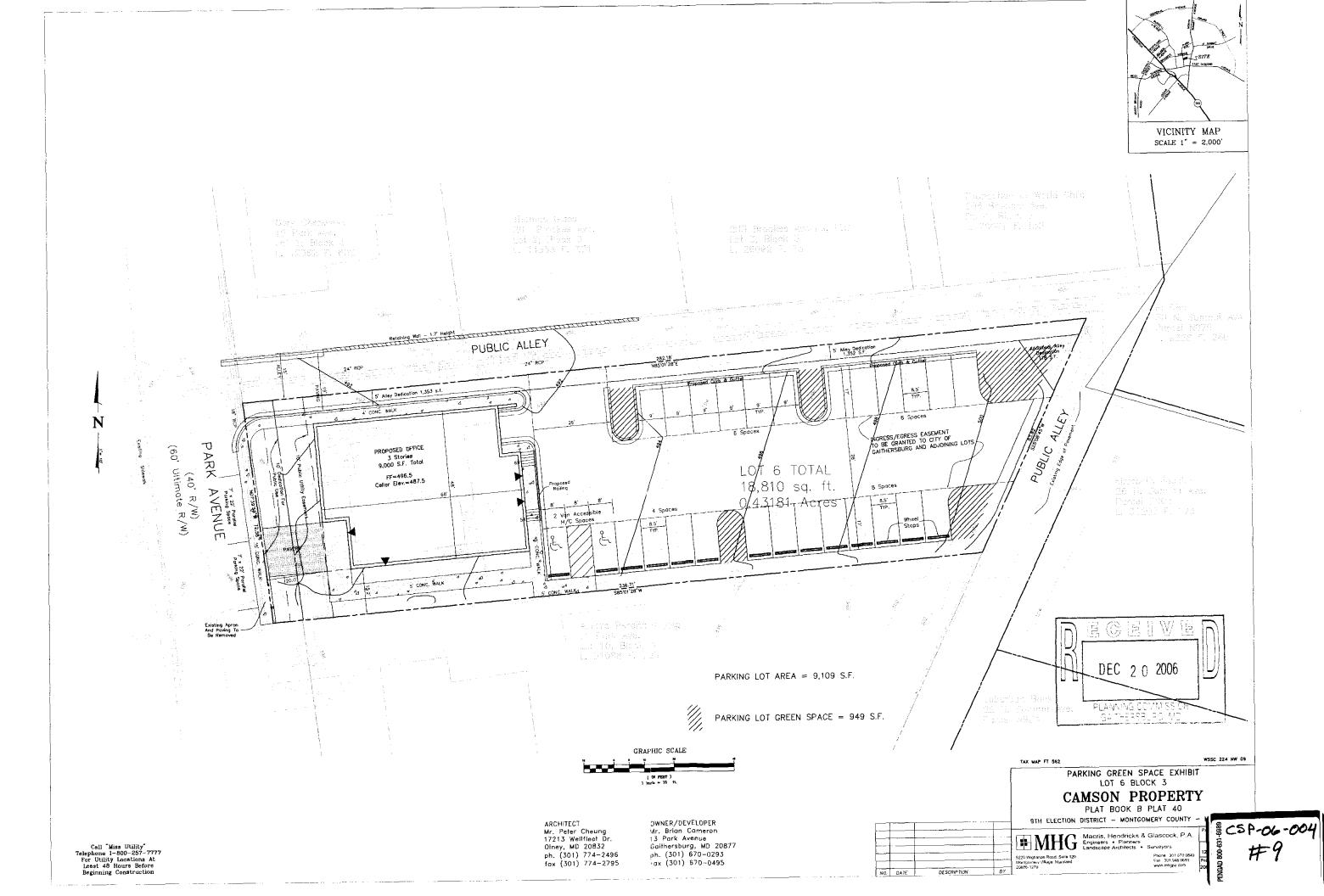
Several opportunities to consolidate surface parking for use by the public and private businesses exist in Sector 4. Where feasible, all surface parking should be located in the middle of the block, behind existing and proposed structures. Clear and visible directional signage will direct vehicles to all public surface parking. Direct, well-lit pedestrian ways that connect the surface parking to the street will improve safety at night.

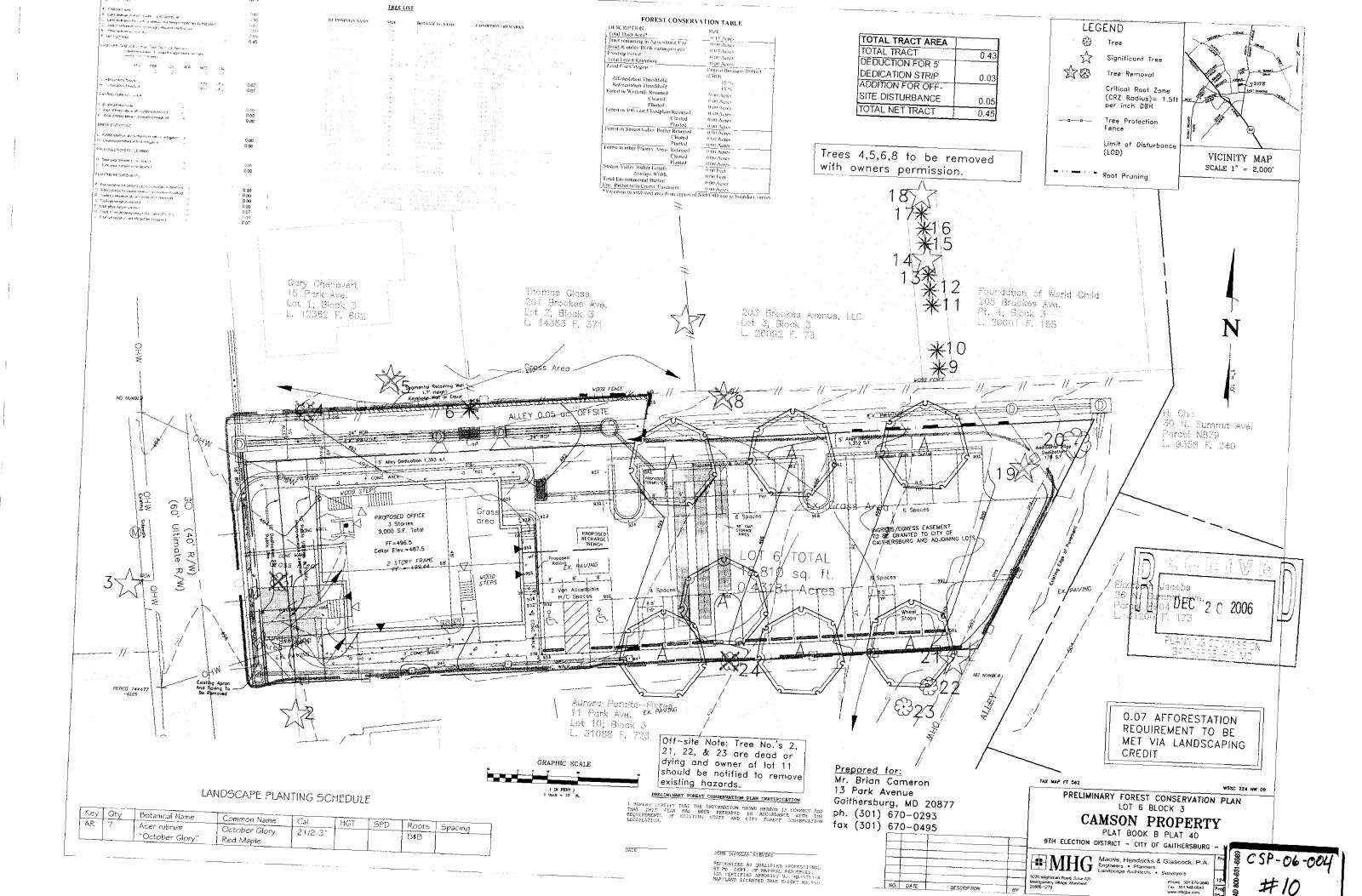
Connectivity and Gateway Improvements

Many of the connectivity improvements proposed in Sector 4 are geared toward the pedestrian. Streetscape improvements of new sidewalk paving, street tree planting, and pedestrian-scaled street lights would reinforce Diamond Avenue's "Main Street" character and create a pedestrian-friendly environment as they stroll to shop and dine in Olde Towne.

The hiker/biker trail proposed in other Sectors would continue here in a westward direction on the north side of the tracks, potentially connecting neighborhoods lying on the west side of Olde Towne to the district's commercial center. Residents living on the west side of Olde Towne would have an opportunity to walk or bike to catch a train to work. A portion of the trail west of Summit Avenue could be constructed as a boardwalk to reflect the boardwalk construction and interpretive features found on the east side of Summit Avenue. Like in Sector 3, the hiker/biker trail would also connect to the existing and proposed pedestrian bridges. Linking Olde Towne across the tracks, these bridges provide a convenient and safe way for pedestrians to cross the railroad tracks and access to the existing parking structure.

The most pronounced Olde Towne gateway in Sector 4 is located at the intersection of Frederick Avenue and Chestnut Street. This area lacks a sense of place and is not welcoming to the pedestrian. New crosswalk or intersection paving, improved traffic signaling, streetscape improvements, and new infill development constructed at the street edge along Chestnut Street would reinforce this intersection as a major gateway into Olde Towne, as well as alert motorists to the presence of pedestrians. New, welcome and directional signage would clearly identify Chestnut Street as the route motorists should take to access Olde Towne from the northwest side of the district.





Stormwater Management Summary Channel Protection Stormwater Management (CpV) is not proposed or required because the 1-year proposed development peak runoff rate is less than 2 cts. Water Quality Control for the majority of the proposed parking lat is to be provided by an Volume Based Stormfilter. Roof runoff is to be directed to a stane filled groundwater recharge trench to be located beneath the proposed parking lat. Full quality stormwater management cannot be provided for the project on -site because a partian of the project improvements are located off the property at a lower elevation. VICINITY MAP SCALE 1" = 2.000'PUBLIC ALLEY Additional Alley Dedication 178 S.F. PUBLIC ALEX AGRESS/EGRESS EASEMENT TO BE GRANTED TO CITY OF CAITHERSBURG AND ADJOINING LOTS 8 Spacés Autora Pornitt Figure 11 Sarv. Ave. Little Presk a Little Fr. 772 PRELIMINARY SWM CONCEPT PLAN ARCHITECT OWNER/DEVELOPER LOT 6 BLOCK 3 Mr. Peter Cheung 17213 Wellfleet Dr. Mr. Brian Cameron 13 Park Avenue CAMSON PROPERTY PLAT BOOK B PLAT 40 Olney, MD 20832 Gaithersburg, MD 20877 ph. (301) 670-0293 9TH ELECTION DISTRICT - MONTGOMERY COUNTY ph. (301) 774-2496 CSP-06-004

fax (301) 670-0495

Macris, Hendricks & Glascock, P.A. Engineers • Planners Landscape Architects • Surveyors

#//

fax (301) 774-2795

PARK

PROPOSED OFFICE 3 Stories 9,000 S.F. Total

FF=496.5 Cellar Elev.=487.5 STERN STAR

GRAPHIC SCALE

(<u>6</u>0)

(40' R/W)